

Listing of the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Claim 1 (currently amended): A temporary window covering comprising:

a pleated cover formed from a sheet of material having a plurality of horizontal creases extending across the width of the sheet thereby defining a plurality of pleats, the pleated cover being moveable between a retracted position wherein each of the pleats is substantially horizontally aligned and in contact with the adjacent pleats, an extended position wherein each of the pleats is substantially vertical and substantially vertically aligned with the other pleats, and a plurality of intermediate positions wherein at least some of the pleats are oriented between the pleats' retracted positions and the pleats' extended positions; and

a bottom rail attached to a bottommost pleat of the pleated cover, the bottom rail being moveable between a first position wherein the bottom rail encircles the pleated cover to prevent the covering from being extended to the extended position, and a second position wherein the bottom rail does not encircle the pleated cover such that the pleated cover may be extended to the extended position and to intermediate positions, and wherein the bottom rail comprises:

a first side having a first edge, a second edge, and a first surface attached to the bottommost pleat of the pleated cover,

a second side having a first edge connected to the second edge of the first side, and a second edge,

a third side having a first edge connected to the second edge of the second side, and a second edge, and

a fourth side having a first edge connected to the second edge of the third side, and a second edge,

wherein the first side, the second side, the third side and the fourth side form a tube encircling the pleated cover when the pleated cover is in the retracted position and the bottom rail is disposed in the first position.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): A temporary window covering as recited in claim 2 1, wherein a first surface of the fourth side is attached to a second surface of the first side when the bottom rail is disposed in the second position such that the first, second, third and fourth sides define an elongated tube having a triangular cross-section.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A temporary window covering as recited in claim 2 1, comprising:

a top rail attached to a topmost pleat of the pleated cover; and

a cord having a first end connected to the top rail,

wherein the bottom rail has a slot disposed through a surface of the bottom rail, the slot being adapted to receive the cord, and at least a portion of the slot having a width less than the thickness of the cord such that the slot engages the cord to support the weight of the bottom rail and an accumulated portion of the pleated cover when the cord is engaged by the at least a portion of the slot.

Claim 5 (original): A temporary window covering as recited in claim 4, wherein each pleat has a hole therethrough, with the cord being threaded through the holes of the pleats.

Claim 6 (original): A temporary window covering as recited in claim 4, wherein the first side has a first hole therethrough, wherein one of the second and the third sides has a second hole therethrough, wherein the slot is disposed through the second and the third sides proximate the second edge of the second side and the first edge of the third side, and wherein the cord is threaded through the first hole and the second hole such that the bottom rail and

the accumulated portion of the pleated cover are supported when a portion of the free end of the cord extending through the second hole is disposed in the at least a portion of the slot

Claim 7 (original): A temporary window covering as recited in claim 4, wherein the first side has a first hole therethrough, wherein the slot is disposed through at least one of the second and the third sides, the slot having an opening having a width greater than the thickness of the cord such that the cord may pass through the opening of the slot, and wherein the cord is threaded through the first hole and the opening of the slot such that the bottom rail and the accumulated portion of the pleated cover are supported when a portion of the free end of the cord extending through the opening of the slot is disposed into the at least a portion of the slot having the width less than the thickness of the cord.

Claim 8 (original): A temporary window covering as recited in claim 7, wherein the slot has a first narrow portion having a width less than the thickness of the cord and a second narrow portion having a width less than the thickness of the cord, wherein the first and second narrow portions are disposed on opposite sides of the opening of the slot.

Claim 9 (original): A temporary window covering as recited in claim 4, wherein the slot is disposed through the second and the third sides proximate the second edge of the second side and the first edge of the third side.

Claim 10 (original): A temporary window covering as recited in claim 4, wherein the first side has a first hole therethrough, one of the second and the third sides has a second hole therethrough, and the fourth side has a third hole therethrough, wherein a free end of the cord opposite the first end is threaded through the first hole, then through the third hole, and then through the second hole.

Claim 11 (original): A temporary window covering as recited in claim 4, wherein the first side has a first hole therethrough, one of the second and the third sides has a second hole therethrough, and the fourth side has a cut-out portion proximate the second edge of the fourth side, wherein a free end of the cord opposite the first end is threaded through the first hole and the second hole, and wherein a portion of the cord disposed between the first hole and the second hole is disposed outside out of the cut-out portion when the bottom rail is in the first position, and is disposed within the cut-out portion when the bottom rail is reconfigured from the first position to the second position.

Claim 12 (original): A temporary window shade according to claim 4, wherein the bottom rail has a first notch having a first inner edge in the second and third sides proximate the second edge of the second side and the first edge of the third side, and a second notch having a second inner edge in the second and third sides proximate the second edge of the second side and the first edge of the third side, wherein the first inner edge is disposed on the side of the notch proximate the second notch and the second inner edge is disposed on the side of the notch proximate the first notch, the first and second inner edges being adapted to have a portion of a free end of the cord extending beyond the slot wrapped around the first and the second inner edges of the first and second notches, respectively.

Claim 13 (original): A temporary window shade according to claim 12, wherein the first inner edge is angled inwardly toward the second notch as the first inner edge proceeds from the second edge of the second side and the first edge of the third side toward the first edge of the second side and the second edge of the third side, and wherein the second inner edge is angled inwardly toward the first notch as the second inner edge proceeds from the second edge of the second side and the first edge of the third side toward the first edge of the second side and the second edge of the third side.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A temporary window covering as recited in claim 2 1, wherein the first, second, third and fourth sides are fabricated from a single unitary piece of material having a first crease defining the second edge of the first side and the first

edge of the second side, a second crease defining the second edge of the second side and the first edge of the third side, and a third crease defining the second edge of the third side and the first edge of the fourth side.

Claim 15 (previously presented): A temporary window shade according to claim 1, comprising at least one band disposed on an outside surface of the bottom rail when the bottom rail is in the first position to retain the bottom rail in the first position, wherein the bottom rail is moveable between the first position and the second position when the at least one band is not disposed on the outside surface of the bottom rail.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A temporary window covering comprising:

an elongated cover having a top end and a bottom end, the elongated cover being moveable between a retracted position, an extended position, and a plurality of intermediate positions; and

a bottom rail attached to the bottom end of the elongated cover, the bottom rail being moveable between a first position wherein the bottom rail encircles the elongated cover to prevent the elongated cover from being extended to the extended position, and a second position wherein the bottom rail does not encircle the elongated cover such that the elongated cover may be extend to the extended position and to intermediate positions, and wherein the bottom rail comprises:

a first side having a first edge, a second edge, and a first surface attached to the bottom end of the elongated cover;

a second side having a first edge connected to the second edge of the first side, and a second edge;

a third side having a first edge connected to the second edge of the second side, and a second edge; and

a fourth side having a first edge connected to the second edge of the third side, and a second edge,

wherein the first side, the second side, the third side and the fourth side form a tube encircling the elongated cover when the elongated cover is in the retracted position and the bottom rail is disposed in the first position.

Claim 17 (canceled)

Claim 18 (currently amended): A temporary window covering as recited in claim 17 16, wherein a first surface of the fourth side is attached to a second surface of the first side when the bottom rail is disposed in the second position such that the first, second, third and fourth sides define an elongated tube having a triangular cross-section

Claim 19 (currently amended): A temporary window covering as recited in claim 17 16, wherein the first, second, third and fourth sides are fabricated from a single unitary piece of material having a first crease defining the second edge of the first side and the first edge of the second side, a second crease defining the second edge of the second side and the first edge of the third side, and a third crease defining the second edge of the third side and the first edge of the fourth side.

Claim 20 (previously presented): A temporary window shade according to claim 16, comprising at least one band disposed on an outside surface of the bottom rail when the bottom rail is in the first position to retain the bottom rail in the first position, wherein the bottom rail is moveable between the first position and the second position when the at least one band is not disposed on the outside surface of the bottom rail.

Claim 21 (previously presented): A temporary window shade according to claim 16, wherein the elongated cover has first and second outer edges on opposite sides of the elongated cover, and wherein the bottom rail comprises at least one tab extending outwardly beyond a corresponding one of the first and second outer edges, the at least one tab being

configured to be disposed over the corresponding one of the first and second outer edges to enclose the one of the first and second outer edges within the bottom rail when the bottom rail is configured in the first position.

Claim 22 (original): A temporary window shade according to claim 16, wherein the elongated cover has first and second outer edges on opposite sides of the elongated cover, and wherein the bottom rail comprises a tab having a hole therethrough extending outwardly beyond a corresponding one of the first and second outer edges.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A temporary window shade, comprising:

an elongated cover having a top end and a bottom end, the elongated cover being moveable between a retracted position, an extended position, and a plurality of intermediate positions;

a top rail attached to the top end of the elongated cover;

a cord having a first end connected to the top rail; and

a bottom rail attached to the bottom end of the elongated cover, wherein the bottom rail has a slot disposed through a surface of the bottom rail, the slot configured to receive the cord, and at least a portion of the slot having a width less than the thickness of the cord such that the slot engages the cord to support the weight of the bottom rail and an accumulated portion of the elongated cover when the cord is engaged by the at least a portion of the slot, and wherein the bottom rail comprises:

a first side having a first edge, a second edge, and a first surface attached to the bottom end of the elongated cover;

a second side having a first edge connected to the second edge of the first side, and a second edge;

a third side having a first edge connected to the second edge of the second side, and a second edge; and

a fourth side having a first edge connected to the second edge of the third side, and a second edge,

wherein the first side, the second side, the third side and the fourth side form a tube encircling the elongated cover when the elongated cover is in the retracted position and the bottom rail is disposed in the first position.

Claim 24 (original): A temporary window shade as recited in claim 23, wherein the elongated cover comprises a pleated cover formed from a sheet of material having a plurality of horizontal creases extending across the width of the sheet thereby defining a plurality of pleats, the pleated cover being adapted to be oriented in the retracted position wherein each of the pleats is substantially horizontally aligned and in contact with the adjacent pleats, the extended position wherein each of the pleats is substantially vertical and substantially vertically aligned with the other pleats, and a plurality of intermediate positions wherein at least some of the pleats are oriented between the pleats' retracted positions and the pleats' extended positions, and wherein the top rail is attached to a topmost pleat of the pleated cover and the bottom rail is attached to a bottommost pleat of the pleated cover.

Claim 25 (original): A temporary window shade as recited in claim 24, wherein each pleat has a hole therethrough, with the cord being threaded through the holes of the pleats.

Claim 26 (original): A temporary window shade as recited in claim 23, wherein the bottom rail has a first hole and a second hole therethrough, and wherein the cord is threaded through the first hole and the second hole such that the bottom rail and an accumulated portion of the elongated cover are supported by the cord when a portion of the free end of the cord extending through the second hole is disposed in the at least a portion of the slot.

Claim 27 (original): A temporary window shade as recited in claim 23, wherein the bottom rail has a first hole therethrough, wherein the slot has an opening having a width

greater than the thickness of the cord such that the cord may pass through the opening of the slot, and wherein the cord is threaded through the first hole and the opening of the slot such that the bottom rail and an accumulated portion of the pleated cover are supported by the cord when a portion of the free end of the cord extending through the opening of the slot is disposed into the at least a portion of the slot having the width less than the thickness of the cord.

Claim 28 (original): A temporary window covering as recited in claim 27, wherein the slot has a first narrow portion having a width less than the thickness of the cord and a second narrow portion having a width less than the thickness of the cord, wherein the first and second narrow portions are disposed on opposite sides of the opening of the slot.

Claim 29 (previously presented): A temporary window shade according to claim 23, wherein the bottom rail has a first notch having a first inner edge and a second notch having a second inner edge, wherein the first inner edge is disposed on the side of the first notch proximate the second notch and the second inner edge is disposed on the side of the second notch proximate the first notch, the first and second inner edges configured to have a portion of a free end of the cord extending beyond the slot wrapped around the first and the second inner edges of the first and second notches, respectively.

Claim 30 (original): A temporary window shade according to claim 29, wherein the first inner edge is angled inwardly toward the second notch and the second inner edge is angled inwardly toward the first notch.

Claim 31 (previously presented): A temporary window shade according to claim 23, wherein the bottom rail is moveable between a first position wherein the bottom rail encircles the elongated cover to prevent the elongated cover from being extended to the extended position, and a second position wherein the bottom rail does not encircle the

elongated cover such that the elongated cover may be extend to the extended position and to intermediate positions.

Claim 32 (canceled)

Claim 33 (currently amended): A temporary window shade according to claim ~~32~~ 23, wherein a first surface of the fourth side is attached to a second surface of the first side when the bottom rail is disposed in the second position such that the first, second, third and fourth sides define an elongated tube having a triangular cross-section.

Claim 34 (currently amended): A temporary window shade according to claim ~~32~~ 23, wherein the first, second, third and fourth sides are fabricated from a single unitary piece of material having a first crease defining the second edge of the first side and the first edge of the second side, a second crease defining the second edge of the second side and the first edge of the third side, and a third crease defining the second edge of the third side and the first edge of the fourth side.

Claim 35 (previously presented): A temporary window shade according to claim 31, comprising at least one band disposed on an outside surface of the bottom rail when the bottom rail is in the first position to retain the bottom rail in the first position, wherein the bottom rail is moveable between the first position and the second position when the at least one band is not disposed on the outside surface of the bottom rail.

Claim 36 (currently amended): A temporary window shade, comprising:

a pleated cover formed from a sheet of material having a plurality of horizontal creases extending across the width of the sheet thereby defining a plurality of pleats, with each pleat having a hole therethrough, the pleated cover being moveable between a retracted position wherein each of the pleats is substantially horizontally aligned and in contact with

the adjacent pleats, an extended position wherein each of the pleats is substantially vertical and substantially vertically aligned with the other pleats, and a plurality of intermediate positions wherein at least some of the pleats are oriented between the pleats' retracted positions and the pleats' extended positions;

a top rail attached to a topmost pleat of the pleated cover;

a cord having a first end connected to the top rail, with the cord being threaded through the holes of the pleats of the pleated cover; and

a bottom rail attached to a bottommost pleat of the pleated cover, wherein the bottom rail has a slot disposed through a surface of the bottom rail, the slot being adapted to receive the cord, and at least a portion of the slot having a width less than the thickness of the cord such that the slot engages the cord to support the weight of the bottom rail and an accumulated portion of the elongated cover when the cord is engaged by the at least a portion of the slot, and wherein the bottom rail comprises:

a first side having a first edge, a second edge, and a first surface attached to the bottom end of the pleated cover;

a second side having a first edge connected to the second edge of the first side, and a second edge;

a third side having a first edge connected to the second edge of the second side, and a second edge; and

a fourth side having a first edge connected to the second edge of the third side, and a second edge,

wherein the first side, the second side, the third side and the fourth side form a tube encircling the pleated cover when the pleated cover is in the retracted position and the bottom rail is disposed in the first position.

Claim 37 (original): A temporary window shade as recited in claim 36, wherein the bottom rail has a first hole and a second hole therethrough, and wherein the cord is threaded through the first hole and the second hole such that the bottom rail and an accumulated

portion of the pleated cover are supported by the cord when a portion of the free end of the cord extending through the second hole is disposed in the at least a portion of the slot.

Claim 38 (original): A temporary window shade as recited in claim 36, wherein the bottom rail has a first hole therethrough, wherein the slot has an opening having a width greater than the thickness of the cord such that the cord may pass through the opening of the slot, and wherein the cord is threaded through the first hole and the opening of the slot such that the bottom rail and an accumulated portion of the pleated cover are supported by the cord when a portion of the free end of the cord extending through the opening of the slot is disposed into the at least a portion of the slot having the width less than the thickness of the cord.

Claim 39 (original): A temporary window covering as recited in claim 38, wherein the slot has a first narrow portion having a width less than the thickness of the cord and a second narrow portion having a width less than the thickness of the cord, wherein the first and second narrow portions are disposed on opposite sides of the opening of the slot.

Claim 40 (previously presented): A temporary window shade according to claim 36, wherein the bottom rail has a first notch having a first inner edge and a second notch having a second inner edge, wherein the first inner edge is disposed on the side of the first notch proximate the second notch and the second inner edge is disposed on the side of the second notch proximate the first notch, the first and second inner edges configured to have a portion of a free end of the cord extending beyond the slot wrapped around the first and the second inner edges of the first and second notches, respectively.

Claim 41 (original): A temporary window shade according to claim 40, wherein the first inner edge is angled inwardly toward the second notch and the second inner edge is angled inwardly toward the first notch.

Claim 42 (previously presented): A temporary window shade according to claim 36, wherein the bottom rail is moveable between a first position wherein the bottom rail encircles the pleated cover to prevent the elongated cover from being extended to the extended position, and a second position wherein the bottom rail does not encircle the pleated cover such that the pleated cover may be extend to the extended position and to intermediate positions.

Claim 43 (canceled)

Claim 44 (currently amended): A temporary window shade according to claim 43 36, wherein a first surface of the fourth side is attached to a second surface of the first side when the bottom rail is disposed in the second position such that the first, second, third and fourth sides define an pleated tube having a triangular cross-section.

Claim 45 (currently amended): A temporary window shade according to claim 43 36, wherein the first, second, third and fourth sides are fabricated from a single unitary piece of material having a first crease defining the second edge of the first side and the first edge of the second side, a second crease defining the second edge of the second side and the first edge of the third side, and a third crease defining the second edge of the third side and the first edge of the fourth side.

Claim 46 (previously presented): A temporary window shade according to claim 42, comprising at least one band disposed on an outside surface of the bottom rail when the bottom rail is in the first position to retain the bottom rail in the first position, wherein the bottom rail is moveable between the first position and the second position when the at least one band is not disposed on the outside surface of the bottom rail.